

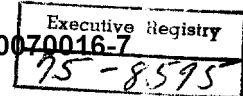
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23 SEP 1975

NOTE FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT : Favorable Comments Made During Hearing
Before Senate Select Committee -
Tuesday, 16 September 1975

Sir:

1. Attached are comments made by selected members of the Senate Select Committee during the open hearing held on Tuesday, 16 September 1975, relating to toxic materials.

2. As you are aware, the press coverage normally includes that which is critical and fails to report comments showing respect for the intelligence profession and CIA employees. With this in mind, and with your concurrence, I suggest that the attached statements be distributed throughout the Agency as the subject of an employee bulletin.

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John F. Blake
Deputy Director
for
Administration

Attachment

EXCERPTS FROM U.S. SENATE - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS

Sen. Frank Church,
Chairman

Today, as a member of the Foreign Relations Committee, I am fully aware of the great value of good intelligence in times of peace. Without it, an informed foreign policy could not be conducted; without it, nuclear arms controls could not be policed; without it, the United States would be left groping in a dangerous world.

Sen. Walter Huddleston

Mr. Colby, first, I would like to commend you for the forthright way that you have dealt with this Committee. In my judgment, you have made every effort to provide us with the information we needed and have adopted the policy on your own that certainly would tend to eliminate many of the alleged abuses and apparent abuses that occurred in recent years.

Sen. Barry Goldwater

Criticism and analysis are important ingredients in making our democracy work. However, we are now approaching the point where both are being abused to the point of self-destruction. I submit we must get out of the morass of doubt and pessimism

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into which we have sunk. We must not let the quarrels of the past interfere with building for the future.

A tidal wave of criticism has swept over the intelligence community of our country, much of which is mistaken or unwarranted. The damage is severe. If continued, its survival is uncertain.

Before this Committee have appeared men of the CIA, both on active duty and retired. All have been impressive because of their dedication and loyalty. Nothing we have heard detracts from the reputation of the CIA as a highly competent organization. The men and women of the CIA are doing a great job under very trying conditions.

And I say to them, as our nation gets back on course, I believe there will be change for the better. I ask you to hold on until that happens. You were never more needed by this country than right now. And as one American, I am proud of you.

To those young people who may be looking for careers and who have a desire for public service, I can think of no better way to serve your nation than as an intelligence officer. Many skills are required to keep the CIA a useful and productive organization, and continuity is vital to America.

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Sen. Robert Morgan

Mr. Chairman, Mr. Colby, since this is the first public hearing of this committee, I think we should note that we feel and I certainly feel that the role played by the Central Intelligence Agency is a very vital one, and a very important one. I think the fact that you quoted from President Kennedy who said that quite often our failures are trumpeted and our successes go unheralded is appropriate here.

This committee has been told by witnesses that had the Central Intelligence Agency existed prior to World War II, Pearl Harbor might never have happened or if it had happened, the loss in deaths and property might have been much less. So I want you to know that we do recognize the role of the Central Intelligence Agency. We recognize the fact that we in this country must be able to know in advance what our potential adversaries and potential enemies may be planning so that we can cope with them. So I do think it is important. . .

I would commend you, Mr. Colby, again for taking these steps to determine what has happened. I think most men in the CIA as well as those in the Internal Revenue Service and the Federal Bureau of Investigation are dedicated public officials that want to do what is right. I think your method of asking for any known violations has been helpful to this committee. I would commend it, Mr. Chairman, to the Internal Revenue

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Service, to the end that they might ask their field agents if they know of known violations in this area and I would commend it also to the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Sen. Gary Hart

Mr. Colby, I think your exposure to this committee is sufficient to know that none of us wishes to question the loyalty or patriotism of any of your employees.